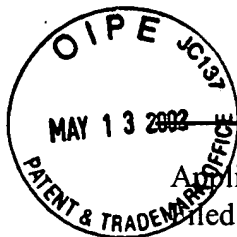


3731

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/684,218

Filed: October 6, 2000

Inventor(s):

McBride et al.

Examiner: Unknown.
 Group/Art Unit: 3731
 Atty. Dkt. No: 5259-04800

Title: ADJUSTABLE
 TRANSVERSE
 CONNECTOR

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
 UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

DATE OF DEPOSIT:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with
 the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first
 class mail on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

Jo Ann Scott
 Jo Ann Scott

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

Applicant requests consideration of ☒ the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449
 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A copy of each reference
 listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- a. ☐ within 3 months of the filing date of the above identified application, or ☐
 within 3 months of entry into National stage prosecution of an International
 application, or ☒ before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,
 and thus no certification and/or fee is required.
- b. ☐ after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a
 final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:

- ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
☐ a fee of \$240.00 is enclosed.
- c. ☐ after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:
- ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
☐ a Petition and fee of \$130.00 are enclosed.
2. It is hereby certified:
- ☒ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. ☐ Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or
- ☒ reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) _____, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:

6. ☒ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.
7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.
8. ☒ Applicant(s) request that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5259-04800/EBM. A **duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.**

Respectfully submitted,



David W. Quimby
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Date: 5/7/02